United Nations ST/IC/2002/66

Secretariat

15 October 2002

Information circular*

To: Members of delegations and staff

From: The Assistant Secretary-General for Central Support Services

Subject: **First day of issue — 24 October 2002: "AIDS Awareness" stamps and souvenir sheets; "Switzerland — New Member of the United Nations" stamp; and 2002 Annual Collection folders**

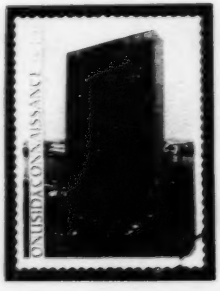
Commemorative stamps and semi-postal souvenir sheets

1. On Thursday, 24 October 2002, the United Nations Postal Administration (UNPA) will issue a set of three commemorative stamps and three semi-postal souvenir sheets on the theme "AIDS Awareness".

2. The photographs (Department of Public Information of the United Nations Secretariat) were taken by Evan Schneider (United Nations) and adapted as stamps and souvenir sheets by Rorie Katz (United Nations).

3. The stamps will be issued in denominations of 70 cents, Sw F 1,30 and €1,53.

(United States equivalents — Sw F 1,30: 83 cents; and €1,53: $1.44, subject to exchange-rate fluctuation.)



* Expiration date of the present information circular: 8 November 2002.

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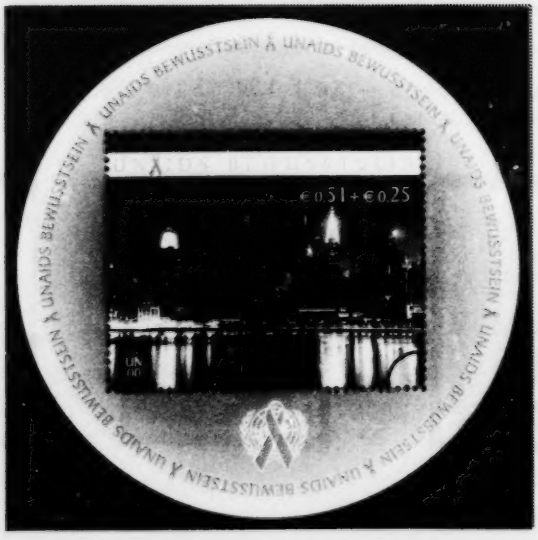
4. For the first time in UNPA history, three semi-postal souvenir sheets will be issued. A semi-postal stamp costs more than the price of a regular stamp and is issued to raise funds for a designated cause or charity. The additional cost added to the postage rate for this issue will be contributed to the Global AIDS and Health Fund, which was established in 2001 by the Secretary-General.

5. The souvenir sheets will be issued in denominations of 37 cents + 6 cents = 43 cents, Sw F 0,90 + Sw F 0,30 = Sw F 1,20, and €0,51 + €0,25 = €0,76.

(United States equivalents — Sw F 1,20: 77 cents; and €0,76: 71 cents, subject to exchange-rate fluctuation.)



Definitive stamp

6. Also on 24 October 2002, UNPA will issue a Sw F 3,00 definitive stamp to honour the admission of Switzerland as a new Member of the United Nations.

7. The stamp was designed by Thierry Clauson (Switzerland) and is a graphic combination of the Swiss flag and a dove.

(United States equivalent — Sw F 3,00: $1.92.)

2002 Annual Collection folders

8. The New York, Geneva and Vienna Annual Collection folders of single mint stamps and souvenir sheets issued in 2002 will be released also on 24 October 2002. It should be noted that the 2002 Endangered Species series stamps **will not** be included in the individual New York, Geneva or Vienna Annual Collection folders. They are contained in their own separate album previously issued in April 2000.

Special items

9. In addition, UNPA will sell two special items starting on 24 October 2002. The New York version of the "AIDS Awareness" souvenir sheet has been used in the manufacture of pins and magnets. The pin will sell for $2.00 and the magnet will sell for $3.50.

General information

10. For the convenience of collectors, UNPA at Headquarters will provide prepared and cancelled New York, Geneva and Vienna first-day covers on the UNPA official first-day cachets **only**. Members of delegations and the staff can obtain these items on Thursday, 24 October 2002, at the following locations:

(a) UNPA sales counter in the concourse of the General Assembly Building: 9 a.m. to 5.30 p.m.;

(b) Temporary counter on the east side of the Secretariat lobby between the cafeteria and the news-stand in front of the windows: 9 a.m. to 4.30 p.m.

11. First day of issue cancellations can be obtained at a temporary United States Postal Service substation located outside the United Nations Bookshop in the concourse of the General Assembly Building from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

12. Members of delegations and the staff can obtain the "AIDS Awareness" pins and magnets at the following locations:

(a) UNPA sales counter in the concourse of the General Assembly Building: 9 a.m. to 5.30 p.m.;

(b) Temporary counter on the east side of the Secretariat lobby between the cafeteria and the news-stand in front of the windows: 9 a.m. to 4.30 p.m.

13. Information on United Nations stamps can be accessed on the Internet at http://www.un.org/Depts/UNPA.